

BOROUGH
OF
MALMESBURY
1962



BOROUGH OF MALMESBURY

THE

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

and

P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R

for the

YEAR ENDED

31st. December, 1962.



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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY ETC.

(a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

C.L. Broomhead, T.D., M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.

5, High Street, Chippenham.

Telephone, Chipp. 2821

also Medical Officer of Health for the Boroughs of Calne, Chippenham and the two Rural Districts of Calne & Chippenham and Malmesbury, Assistant County Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

(b) PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

E.H. Holroyd, Cert. R.S.I.

Meat & Food Inspector's Cert.

who combined the duties with that of Borough Surveyor.

(c) SECRETARY TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

S.G.V. Williamson, Cert. R.I.P.H.H.

(d) PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The General Purposes Committee of the Council deals with all matters pertaining to Public Health.

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,
Malmesbury Borough Council.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1962 in accordance with Regulation 15(5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959.

Copies of the Report are required by the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, The Ministry of Housing & Local Government and H.M. Inspector of Factories; a copy is also sent to the County Medical Officer of Health.

The report of the Public Health Inspector is incorporated.

I am grateful to the Clerk and the staff of the Council for their co-operation during the year under review and particularly to Mr. Holroyd, the Council's Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

C.L. Broomhead,

Medical Officer of Health.

Area (in acres)	227
Population	2,600
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1962 according to the Rate Book)	976
Rateable Value	£34,940
Sum represented by the Penny Rate	£136.12.8d.

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	22	18	40
Illegitimate	1	2	3
Total	<u>23</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>43</u>

Crude birth rate for the Borough	16.5
per 1000 of the population.	
Adjusted Birth Rate for the Borough	18.8
per 1000 of the population	
Comparative Rate for England & Wales	18.0
per 1000 of the population.	

Members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area are included in the population figure shown under the heading "General Statistics". To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from England & Wales as a whole, the crude birth rate for the Borough is to be multiplied by a "comparability factor" given by the Registrar General. The above statistics have been so corrected.

STILL BIRTHS

Three still births, two males and one female, were recorded during 1962. The rate per 1000 total live and still births is 65.0. The comparative rate for England and Wales is given as 18.1. Too much attention should not be given to these statistics on account of the small numbers involved.

INFANT MORTALITY

Only one child, under the age of one year, died during the year. This infant died during its first seven days of life.

DEATHS

Deaths recorded in the Borough during 1962 were as follows:-

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Death Rate for the Borough	16	19	35
	13.4 per 1000 of the population		
Comparative Rate for England & Wales			11.9 per 1000 of the population.

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, other	1	-	1
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic dis.	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	1	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic neoplasms	4	6	10
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	-	2	2
Coronary disease, angina	3	3	6
Hypertension with heart disease	1	-	1
Other heart disease	-	4	4
Other circulatory disease	-	-	-
Influenza	1	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Bronchitis	-	2	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1	1
Congenital malformations	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined dis.	3	-	3
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	-	-	-
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
TOTAL:	<u>16</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>35</u>

Only one case of infectious disease was notified during the year, namely, a case of Scarlet Fever.

It is satisfactory to record that for the second year in succession no cases of tuberculosis were notified, and no deaths due to this disease occurred during the year.

Notwithstanding this most satisfactory state of affairs, it is desirable to keep in mind that it is notoriously difficult to estimate the amount of undisclosed infectious disease within a community. This is particularly so in the case of a disease such as tuberculosis where in many cases the symptoms of the disease may not be severe enough to induce the patient to seek medical advice. There is always therefore likely to be a number of cases which are not disclosed at the earliest possible opportunity, or are never disclosed at all. It will be appreciated therefore that full use of the facilities offered free by the Regional Hospital Board Mass X-Ray Services, will do much to reduce the unknown infector pool. Local District Councils have a very important duty to perform in the eradication of tuberculosis from the community by the provision of good housing accommodation and the abatement of overcrowding.

According to the Register of Tuberculous Persons, the following notified and confirmed cases of Tuberculosis were living in the Borough at the end of 1962.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pulmonary	9	8	17
Non-Pulmonary	1	-	1
TOTAL	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>18</u>

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

A Mobile X-Ray Unit visited the Borough during April and May and operated at the premises of Messrs. E.K. Cole Ltd., and at the Car Park, with the following results.

Total persons examined	822
Cases of active Tuberculosis found	Nil
Cases of inactive (healed) tuberculosis found	1
Chest abnormalities (other than tuberculosis) found	1

Vaccination and Immunisation

The Wiltshire County Council, as a Local Health Authority, is responsible for the formation of schemes for the immunisation of children against certain infectious diseases. I am indebted to Dr. C.D.L. Lycett, County Medical Officer of Health for the following information.

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus Immunisation

<u>Year of Birth</u>		1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1953-57	1948-52
Primary imms. completed during 1962.	Diph	15	38	1	2	-	2	-
	Wh/c	15	38	1	1	-	1	-
	Tet.	15	38	1	2	2	19	5
Reinf.injections administered during 1962.	Diph.	-	2	20	3	2	39	1
	Wh/c	-	2	19	2	1	8	1
	Tet.	-	2	20	2	1	33	5

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Smallpox Vaccinations

Age Group	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over
Vaccinations	46	8	13	63	31
Revaccinations	-	1	3	41	85

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Poliomyelitis Immunisation.

The following immunisations were completed during 1962.

<u>Persons born</u>	2nd inj.	3rd inj.	4th inj.	3 oral	3 oral after 2 injs.	4th oral.
1943-1961	10	110	2	57	8	37
1933-1942	3	30	1	11	1	-
Babies born in 1962	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	4	74	-	17	1	-
Totals	17	214	3	85	10	37

The North Wilts. Water Board finally took over the administration of the Council's Water Undertakings on the 1st. October, 1962 and decided that the appointment of a Medical Officer to the Board was not required.

The Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of Health stated in his Annual Report for 1957 that all water undertakings should ensure that they have access to competent medical advice at all times. The Water Board also requires advice on medical fitness of new employees and whether those employed in intimate contact with water are free from intestinal infection. It was considered advisable therefore to convene a meeting between the Clerk and Engineer of the North Wilts. Water Board, the Medical Officers of Health of the adjoining districts within the area of supply of the Board, and the Director of the Public Health Laboratory, Bath to arrange a sampling procedure for the future and to define and accept individual responsibilities.

A meeting took place on the 12th. October, 1962 and the following agreement was reached.

- (a) Bacteriological examination of samples of water taken both by the Board and the Constituent Councils to be carried out at the Salisbury Laboratories for the Devizes Districts and at the Bath Laboratories for the remaining districts. Dr. Mann requested that samples should be delivered to the laboratories not later than Thursday in each week unless special arrangements were made.
- (b) The Constituent Councils Medical Officers to continue to have samples taken from consumers taps and to observe chlorine residuals.
- (c) The Board's Officers to take samples at the source and also from consumers' taps.
- (d) The arrangements for chemical and physical examination of water supplies to be undertaken by the Board's Officers.
- (e) Full interchange of laboratory reports on all samples whether taken by the Board or the Constituent Councils. If possible, the laboratories to send copies of reports direct to both the Board and the Medical Officer of Health of the district concerned.
- (f) The Medical Officers of Health agreed to co-operate in the examination of new employees both for superannuation purposes and for fitness to be employed in waterworks.
- (g) The position of employees who had been transferred from the Constituent Councils was carefully considered and it was decided to recommend to the Board that the medical history of all transferred employees be reviewed.

The Medical Officers of Health stressed the importance of the recommendations relating to general cleanliness at waterworks contained in Memorandum 221

Since the meeting held on the 12th. October, the following letter has been sent to the Clerk to the North Wilts. Water Board.

"Dear Mr. Hargreaves,

Health of Workmen - North Wilts.
Water Board.

We have given much consideration to paragraph 5 of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Memorandum on the Safeguards to be adopted in day to day administration of Water Undertakings, 1959.

We have come to the conclusion that this paragraph should be interpreted strictly and that all new employees should be examined by means of a Widal Test.

We also advise you that all present employees who have not previously had Widal Tests performed should now have these done. We realise that this may lead to difficulties with employees who have already given many years of service, but regretfully decide that we cannot allow this to alter our opinion.

Dr. Kennard of the Salisbury Laboratory and Dr. Paul Mann of the Bath Laboratory agree with our recommendations and will be able to carry out the necessary blood tests by arrangement.

Yours sincerely,

signed. C.L. Broomhead,
 K.J. Adams
 P.J. Speller.

H. Hargreaves, Esq.,
Clerk to the North Wilts. Water Board,
Marshfield Road, Chippenham.

copy to:- C.R. Phillips.
Engineer to the Water Board'

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED THE 31st.DECEMBER,
1962

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,
Borough of Malmesbury.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my
sixteenth Annual Report, covering the work carried
out in the Public Health Department during the year
1962.

The tables and statistics are set out
in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry.

As I do each year I would again like to
express my appreciation to the Chairman and Members
of the Public Health Committee for their help and
understanding during the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E.H. HOLROYD.

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INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Meat

There is one slaughterhouse in the Borough, in which
killing takes place on six days weekly, including Sundays.
Approximately ninety-five per-cent of the meat killed and
dressed is sent out of the Borough. There is also one
Bacon Factory in the Borough.

One hundred per-cent inspection of all animals killed,
including pigs at the Bacon Factory, has been maintained
throughout the year. During my absence inspection is
carried out by the local Veterinary Surgeon.

The table overleaf gives details of animals killed
and inspected, together with the numbers of animals
affected by disease, and includes pigs killed at the
Bacon Factory.

Carcases and offals inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excl. cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep Lambs	Pigs.
Number killed	2806	500	237	4031	7385
Number inspected	2806	500	237	4031	7385
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	5	7	-	10
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	290	145	-	33	66
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis or cysticerci	10.37	30.0	2.9	0.87	1.03

Tuberculosis only

Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	-	-	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	16	-	-	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0.1%	3.4	-	-	0.8

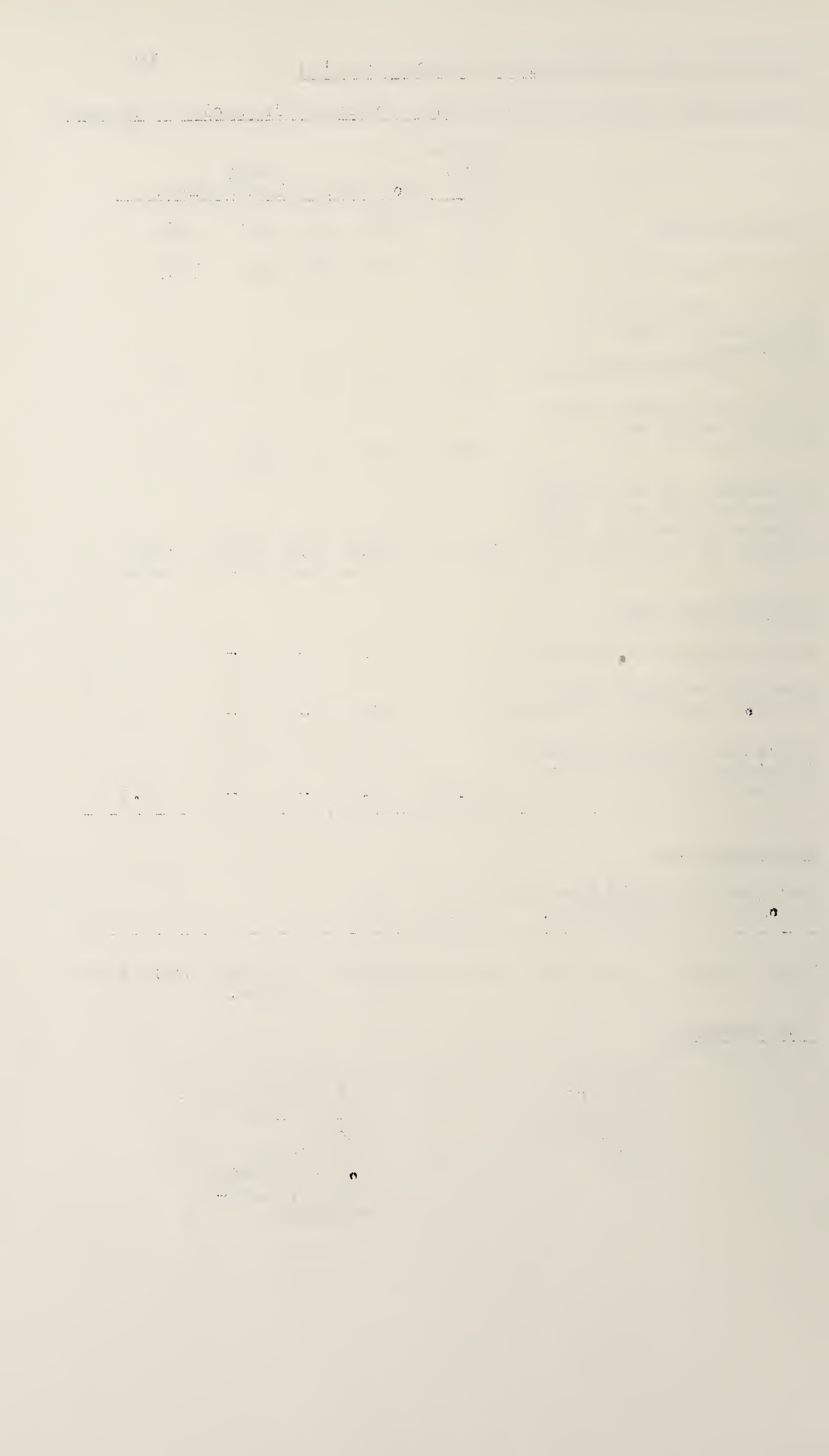
Cysticercosis

Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	Nil	Nil			

Total weight of meat and offal condemned 12 tons 6 cwts 1 qr
5 lbs.

Food Premises

Grocers	6	Sweetshops	5
Greengrocers	3	Wet Fish Shops	2
Butchers	5	Fried Fish	
Small General		Shops	2
Shops	13	Cake Shops	3
Cafes	3	Hotels serving meals to non- residents	6



Food Premises (Cont'd)

All food premises were visited during the year and apart from minor infringements, no breaches of the Food Hygiene Regulations came to light.

The five butcher's shops are all registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955, for the manufacture and sale of sausages. In addition there is one other shop registered under this Section for the preparation of chitterlings.

There are 22 premises from which ice cream is sold, and all are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act. All these premises sell a pre-wrapped produce, stored at a regular temperature by refrigeration. There are no premises in the Borough at which ice cream is made.

Milk

There is one milk producer and two milk retailers in the Borough. Both dairies are registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations for the sale of Tuberculin Tested milk, and one dairy is also registered for the sale of Pasteurised Milk. There are no pasteurisation plants in the Borough. During the year 19 samples were taken for statutory and bacteriological examinations, and all proved to be satisfactory.

Bakehouses.

There are no bakehouses in the Borough, and all the bread distributed is baked elsewhere.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

During the year the undermentioned foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption and surrender notes were issued accordingly. Diseased meat and offal from the slaughterhouse is collected and taken to Swindon for sterilisation in accordance with the provisions of the Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) Regulations, 1960; diseased meat and offal from the Bacon Factory is burnt in the factory boiler, and other condemned foodstuffs are collected and buried at the refuse tip.

<u>Foodstuff</u>	<u>weight</u>
Tinned meat	25 lbs
" milk	7 "
" peas	8 "
" tomatoes	2 "
" fruit	15 "
" soup	2 "
" fish	35 "
" beans	2 "
" rice	2 "
Corned beef	25 "
Pork	64 "

Total weight surrendered: 1 cwt. 2 qrs. 19 lbs.

At the end of the year there were 35 applicants, who were either living or working in the Borough, on the waiting list for houses. These included four who had applied for old persons' bungalows. 9 applications were received during the year. There were no cases of eviction requiring rehousing by the Council.

During the year six houses were erected by private enterprise. No Council houses were erected and no houses were dealt with under the Slum Clearance programme.

Draft lay-out plans were prepared by the Council's Architects for the erection of fourteen houses on a site adjoining the Swimming Pool. It is proposed to allocate these for slum clearance, but the scheme has not yet been submitted to the Ministry.

Housing Act, 1957 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

- (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year Nil
- (2) Number of families dwelling therein Nil
- (3) Number of persons dwelling therein Nil

- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year Nil

- (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year Nil

- (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases Nil

- (d) Particulars of any case in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding Nil

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REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse is collected twice weekly and tipped at a new site that was brought into use during the previous year. This site is very near to the centre of the town, and strict precautions are taken to keep to a minimum any nuisance that may arise. A tracked bulldozer is used to spread and compact the refuse, and to cover it with earth. Regular treatment for rats and other pests is carried out.

Salvaged paper and cardboard are collected with the refuse, and a special collection is made twice monthly from business premises.

The refuse collectors report on any premises that are without suitable dustbins, and the householders are then requested to provide them.

Part 1 of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

<u>PREMISES</u>	No. on Register	Inspns.	No. of written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
1. Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4 are to be enforced by L.A.	19	6	-	-
2. Factories not included in (i) in which sec.7 is enforced by L.A.	16	5	-	-
3. Other premises in which sec. 7 is enforced by L.A. (excluding out- workers premises)	2	-	-	-
TOTAL	35	11	-	-

2. cases in which DEFECTS were found.

	Number of cases in which defects were found.		Number of cases in which prosec- utions were instituted.		
	Found	Remedied	Referred To HM Inspr.	By HM Inspr.	
Want of cleanliness	4	4	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Sanitary Conveniences</u>					
(a). Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
Nor separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	6	6	-	-	-

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The new ring sewers are almost completed and the new works expected to come into operation early in 1963.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICTVisits and Inspections made during 1962

Investigation of complaints	6
Food premises	15
Fish Shops	2
Butchers' Shops	5
Dairies	10
Ice cream premises	11
Restaurants	3
Slaughterhouse	323
Bacon Factory	106
New drainage work	9
Rat infestations	2
Moveable dwellings	4
	<u>497</u>

